

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of reducing parasites in ruminant animals comprising:

providing an effective daily dose for each of at least two anthelmintic compounds of differing chemical groups, wherein said effective daily dose is sufficient to effect a reduction in the level of resistant parasites in a ruminant animal;

providing a duration of exposure for said at least two anthelmintic compounds, wherein said duration of exposure is sufficient to effect a reduction in the level of resistant parasites in an animal, while minimizing toxicity of said anthelmintics to said ruminant animal;

introducing to the ruminant animal a single delivery device comprising said two or more ~~active agents selected from at least two types of~~ anthelmintic compounds of differing chemical groups;

wherein said delivery device is an intra-ruminal bolus configured to release from the rumen ~~an effective amount of active agents~~ said effective daily dose each day for said duration of exposure, wherein said duration of exposure comprises at least 3 days and no more than 6 to 8 days ~~a period of between 3 and 14 days.~~

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the said two or more anthelmintic compounds have different activities.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the active agents are released at a substantially continuous rate.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the said two or more active agents effect a reduction in the parasite burden of the animal.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the said two or more active agents effect a reduction in the number of resistant parasites in the animal.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said anthelmintic compounds are selected from those exhibiting activities selected from the group consisting of: nematocidal, flukicidal, trematocidal, cestocidal, ectoparasiticidal activities and combinations thereof.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said anthelmintic compounds include a macrocyclic lactone.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the macrocyclic lactone is abamectin.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the abamectin is delivered at a dosage of substantially 0.1 – 0.2 mg/kg/day.
10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said anthelmintic compounds include a benzimidazole.
11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the benzimidazole is albendazole.
12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the albendazole is delivered at a dosage of substantially 3.0 - 5.0 mg/kg/day.
13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said anthelmintic compounds include tricalbendazole.
14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the animal is a sheep.
15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said duration of exposure comprises no more than 8 days ~~active agents are released each day for a period of between 5 and 10 days.~~
16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said duration of exposure comprises no more than 6 days ~~active agents are released each day for a period of between 6 and 8 days.~~
17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the parasite is an endoparasite selected from the group consisting of: helminths, nematodes, cestodes, trematodes, and combinations thereof.
18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the parasite is an ectoparasite selected from the group consisting of: ticks, lice, flies, fleas, and combinations thereof.
19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the delivery device is a controlled release device.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the delivery device delivers a maximum integral dose, wherein said maximum integral dose comprises the combination of high doses, extended duration and the combination of two or more anthelmintics into a single product.

21. (Previously presented) A delivery device for use in the method of claim 1.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the active agents are released at a substantially continuous rate.

26. (Currently amended) A method of reducing parasites in animals comprising:

introducing to the animal a single delivery device comprising two or more active agents selected from at least two types of anthelmintic compounds of differing chemical groups;

wherein said delivery device is an intra-ruminal bolus configured to release from the rumen an effective amount of active agents each day for a defined period of between 3 and ~~[[14]]~~ 8 days, and wherein said delivery device is configured to terminate release by the end of said defined period;

thereby releasing an effective amount of said active agents at a constant rate for said defined period, and terminating release by the end of said defined period;

~~and wherein said effective amount is a level of active agents necessary to effect a reduction in the level of parasites in said animal while minimizing selection of resistant parasites.~~

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26 ~~[[27]]~~ wherein said defined period ~~is active agents are released each day for a period of between 6 and 8 days.~~

29. (New) A method of reducing parasites in a sheep comprising:

providing a delivery device comprising a 3.0 - 5.0 mg/kg daily dose of albendazole and a 0.1 - 0.2 mg/kg daily dose of abamectin, wherein said daily dose of

albendazole in combination with said daily dose of abamectin is sufficient to effect a reduction in the level of resistant parasites in a sheep; and

introducing into the sheep said delivery device;

wherein said delivery device is an intra-ruminal bolus configured for constant release from the rumen said daily dose of abamectin and said daily dose of albendazole each day for a duration of exposure comprising at least 3 days and no more than 6 to 8 days.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein said daily dose of albendazole is about 5 mg/kg/day and said daily dose of abamectin is about 0.18 mg/kg/day.